

The grinding wheel 46 is then adjusted to a proper angle in position and traversed along the bedknife edge so as to sharpen the edge in the proper manner. This procedure can be quickly executed such as to speed and simplify the installation process while yielding superior accuracy. It can also be appreciated that the proper alignment of the bedknife pivots 18 does not affect the accuracy of the operation.

Subsequently upon installation of the bedknife in the mower, if any out of parallel condition of the bedknife with the mower reel exists, the adjustment of the adjustable center supports can correct the condition.

FIG. 6 illustrates the use of a clamp 50 which may be used with each electromagnet holder 26 clamp 50 provides an additional securement, holding, the bedknife 12 against the locator plates 40, 42 atop the electromagnet 34 as the clamp is a safety measure preventing the bedknife from coming loose upon the failure of the electromagnet 34 or the inadvertent switching off of the electromagnet 34 during operation of the bedknife grinder.

In the claim:

1. A method of sharpening bedknives adapted to be installed in a reel blade mower by means of a pivot mounted at each end, comprising the steps of:

mounting a spaced set of horizontal locator surfaces on a [fixed] support rail in a bedknife grinder;

positioning each bedknife to be sharpened against said horizontal locator surfaces, with the bottom of said bedknife against said horizontal locator surfaces;

energizing an electromagnet associated with each locator surface set to hold the bedknife against the surfaces, and thereafter operating the bedknife grinder by traversing the grinding wheel along the bedknife so as to sharpen the bedknife as it is held in against said locator surfaces.

2. The method according to claim 1 further including the step of aligning the bedknife pivot mounts to a reel blade installed in said reel mower by adjusting the pivot mount positions in the reel mower.

3. The method according to claim 1 further including the step of aligning each bedknife on said locator horizontal surfaces by positioning an edge of said bedknife against vertical locator surfaces prior to energizing each electromagnet.

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